

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of performing wireless communications, comprising:
2 communicating bearer traffic for a packet-switched communications
3 session between a mobile station and a first base station associated with a first type of
4 wireless system;
5 determining if handoff is required from the first base station to a second
6 base station associated with a second, different type of wireless system; and
7 exchanging messages between the first and second base stations to
8 perform the handoff in response to determining that the handoff is required.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising initiating the handoff by one of
2 the first and second base stations.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first base station comprises an IS-
2 2000 base station, and wherein communicating the bearer traffic comprises
3 communicating the bearer traffic between the mobile station and the IS-2000 base station.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein determining if handoff is required from
2 the first base station to the second base station comprises determining if handoff is
3 required from the IS-2000 base station to a 1xEV access network.

1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein determining if handoff is required from
2 the first base station to the second base station comprises determining if handoff is
3 required from the IS-2000 base station to a High Data Rate (HDR) access network.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first base station comprises a High
2 Data Rate access network, and wherein communicating the bearer traffic comprises
3 communicating the bearer traffic between the mobile station and the High Data Rate
4 access network.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein determining if handoff is required from
2 the first base station to the second base station comprises determining if handoff is
3 required from the High Data Rate access network to an IS-2000 base station.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first base station comprises a 1xEV
2 access network, and wherein communicating the bearer traffic comprises communicating
3 the bearer traffic between the mobile station and the 1xEV access network.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein determining if handoff is required from
2 the first base station to the second base station comprises determining if handoff is
3 required from the 1xEV access network to an IS-2000 base station.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein exchanging the messages comprises
2 exchanging a message indicating that a handoff is required.

1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein exchanging the messages comprises
2 sending a message from the first base station to the second base station indicating that a
3 handoff is required.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein exchanging the messages further
2 comprises sending another message from the second base station to the first base station
3 to initiate a handoff procedure.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein exchanging the messages further
2 comprises sending a further message from the first base station to the second base station
3 to indicate that the mobile station has been directed to hand off to the second base station.

1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein exchanging the messages comprises
2 exchanging the messages over a link between the first base station and the second base
3 station.

1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein performing the handoff comprises
2 performing a hard handoff between the first base station and the second base station.

1 16. An apparatus associated with a first base station system that performs
2 wireless communications according to a first protocol, the apparatus comprising:
3 an interface to a second base station system that performs wireless
4 communications according to a second, different protocol; and
5 a controller adapted to communicate bearer traffic for a packet-switched
6 communications session with a mobile station,
7 the controller adapted to further exchange messaging with the second base
8 station system through the interface to perform a handoff of the packet-switched
9 communications session from the first base station system to the second base station
10 system.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the controller is adapted to perform
2 the handoff by performing a hard handoff.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the controller is adapted to
2 communicate bearer traffic according to IS-2000 format with the mobile station.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the second base station system
2 comprises a High Data Rate base station, and wherein the controller is adapted to
3 exchange the messaging with the High Data Rate base station.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the second base station system
2 comprises a 1xEV base station, and wherein the controller is adapted to exchange the
3 messaging with the 1xEV base station.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the controller is adapted to exchange
2 the messaging by sending a message indicating that a handoff is required.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the controller is adapted to exchange
2 the messaging by receiving a message initiating the handoff procedure.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the controller is adapted to send a
2 further message from the first base station system to the second base station system to
3 indicate that the mobile station has been directed to hand off to the second base station
4 system.

1 24. An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions
2 that when executed cause a first base station system to:

3 exchange signaling according to a first protocol with a mobile station to
4 establish a packet-switched communications session between the mobile station and
5 another endpoint;

6 determine if a handoff is required to a second base station system that
7 performs wireless communications according to a second, different protocol; and

8 exchange messaging with the second base station system through a link
9 between the first and second base station systems to perform the handoff.

1 25. The article of claim 24, wherein the first base station comprises an IS-
2 2000 base station, and wherein the instructions when executed cause the first base station
3 system to exchange IS-2000 signaling with the mobile station.

1 26. The article of claim 25, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 first base station system to determine if handoff is required by determining if handoff is
3 required from the IS-2000 base station to one of a 1xEV access network and a High Data
4 Rate (HDR) access network.

1 27. The article of claim 24, wherein the first base station comprises one of a
2 High Data Rate (HDR) access network and a 1xEV access network, and wherein the
3 instructions when executed cause the first base station system to exchange one of High
4 Data Rate (HDR) signaling and 1xEV signaling with the mobile station.

1 28. The article of claim 27, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 first base station system to determine if handoff is required by determining if handoff is
3 required from the one of a High Data Rate (HDR) access network and 1xEV access
4 network to a IS-2000 base station.

1 29. The article of claim 24, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 first base station system to exchange the messaging by sending a message indicating that
3 a handoff is required.